

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00709 241145Z

51

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 XMB-02 RSC-01 /029 W

----- 023804

R 240745Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1820

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 0709

PASS USDOC WASHDC

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, IV

SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECTS: TAABO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

REF: A) ABIDJAN 8458 B) ABIDJAN 10201 C) STATE 274076

1. JANUARY 14-18, TAABO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT CLIENT (AUTORITE POUR L'AMENAGEMENT DE LA VALLEE DU BANDAMA, AVB) AND ENGINEER/CONSTRUCTION MANAGER (KAISER ENGINEERING) MET IN ABIDJAN WITH PREQUALIFIED COMPANIES INTERESTED IN CIVIL ENGINEERING CONTRACT (TP-1) TO DISCUSS SPECIFICATIONS AND TO VISIT SITE. ONLY AMERICAN FIRM REPRESENTED WAS DRAVO CORPORATION OF PITTSBURG, PA.

2. IN DEBRIEFING DRAVO REPRESENTATIVES (P.A. SCHAAF, PRINCIPAL PROJECT PLANNER AND ESTIMATOR; F.L. FLOOD JR., CHIEF ESTIMATOR; ROBERT L. DOWELL JR., ALGERIAN DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT) AND KAISER ENGINEERING LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE (PHILLIP COQ), EMBOFFS OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A) OF FIRMS WHICH HAD PREQUALIFIED (REFTEL B), ONLY 12 APPEARED: HELD AND FRANCKE (GERMANY), VIANINI (ITALY) AND SOC. ITALIANA PER (ITALY) HAVE DROPPED OUT.

B) CONTRACT SCHEDULE FOR TP-1 THRU 5,7,8, AND TT-1

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 00709 241145Z

IS AS FOLLOWS: BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 7,

CONTRACT TO BE AWARDED LATE MAY - EARLY JUNE, CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED JUNE, WORK TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER. BID DATE FOR TP-6 (TUNNEL LINERS) PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 7, BUT MUGHT BE POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 7.

C) PREQUALIFIERS WERE TOLD THAT \$8 MILLION OF NEW HEAVY EQUIPMENT WILL BE PURCHASED IN US DRAWING ON EXIM CREDIT. TP-1 SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE AMENDED END JANUARY TO SHOW LIST OF US-PROCURED EQUIPMENT.

D) TO DATE THERE IS ONLY ONE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED CONSORTIUM FOR ENTIRE PROJECT (REFTEL B). HOWEVER, THERE IS SPECULATION THAT IMPREGILO (ITALY) AND CGE, ALSTHOM (FRANCE) ARE NEGOTIATING TO FORM A CONSORTIUM.

E) REGARDING FINANCING, COQ STATED THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL FINANCING TO COVER NOT ONLY TAABO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT BUT ALSO PLANNED HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS AT SOUBRE AND BUYO WHICH WILL FORM PART OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR EXPLOITATION OF IRON ORE DEPOSIT IN MAN REGION. IN ADDITION, IT IS RUMORED THAT ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WILL EXTEND FINANCING TO IMPROVE COMPETITIVE POSTION OF ITALIAN FIRMS. NO INFORMATION IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE REGARDING INTEREST RATES AND TERMS.

FOR PARIS AND ROME. ANY INFORMATION REGARDING AMOUNT, RATES,AND TERMS OF POSSIBLE LOANS WOULD BE WELCOME.

COMMENT: DRAVO REPRESENTATIVES WERE VERY IMPRESSED WITH AVB/KAISER PREPARATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS. IN VIEW OF ATTRACTIVENESS OF EXIM FINANCING AND FACT THAT SIGNIFICANT PROTION OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING WILL BE PROCURED IN US, DRAVO REPS BELIEVE COMPANY STANDS GOOD CHANCE OF OBTAINING CONTRACT. HOWEVER,THEY STATED IMPREGILO MAY HAVE AN EDGE SINCE IT PERFORMED EXTREMELY WIELL ON KOUSSOU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT. MAJOR UNCERTAINY IS EXTENT TO WHICH EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WILL PROVIDE ATTRACTIVE FINANCING TO IMPROVE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF THEIR NATIONAL FIRMS.

DIAMANTI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ABIDJA00709  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750027-0356  
**From:** ABIDJAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750124/aaaaavgr.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION COME  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 ABIDJAN 8458, 75 ABIDJAN 10201, 75 STATE 274076  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAJOR PROJECTS: TAABO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT  
**TAGS:** BEXP, IV  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006